

B²

11. (Amended) An isolated human antibody, or an antigen-binding portion thereof, that binds an epitope of human IL-18, or portion thereof, comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 3 and SEQ ID NO: 33.

B³

16. (Amended) An isolated human antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, that binds to an epitope of human IL-18, wherein the antibody, or antigen-binding portion thereof, dissociates from human IL-18 with a k_{off} rate constant of 0.1s^{-1} or less, as determined by surface plasmon resonance, or which inhibits human IL-18 activity with an IC_{50} of $1 \times 10^{-6}\text{M}$ or less.

B⁴

46. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 45, wherein said additional agent is selected from the group consisting of an antibody or fragment thereof capable of binding human IL-12, methotrexate, TNF antagonists, corticosteroids, cyclosporin, rapamycin, FK506, and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents.

Please add the following new claim 61 under the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.121(c)(1)(i) so that it appears as follows:

B⁵

61. (New) A compound comprising a human antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof, wherein said compound is capable of binding a polypeptide, said polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 70 and SEQ ID NO: 71.